Drinking Water Electronic EDT Newsletter

Electronic Reporting Mandatory

Recent revisions to the California Code of Regulations affect the way water systems and laboratories report drinking water analysis results to the Department of Health Services (DHS). Regulations require public drinking water systems in California submit all water quality monitoring data to the DHS **electronically, and directly from the laboratories used by Public Water Systems.** Electronically is defined as either via e-mail or mailed on disk. The regulatory revisions were necessary to ensure the prompt and accurate reporting of water quality data to water systems and to DHS. The requirements of the revised regulation became effective on June 14, 2001, with minor changes without regulatory effect on August 24, 2001. The regulations, which are reproduced at http://www.dhs.ca.gov/ps/ddwem/EDT/edt.htm are summarized below:

- Analytical results shall be reported to the Department no later than the tenth day of the month following the month in which the **analyses were completed** (Sections 64451(a) and 64819(a)(4)).
- Analytical results shall be reported to the Department electronically using the Electronic Data Format (EDF) (Sections 64451(c) and 64819(a)(4)).
- The water supplier shall ensure that a contact person is available 24-hours a day to receive notification when any of the following occur:
    - Analytical results indicate the presence of total coliforms, fecal coliforms, or E. coli (Sections 64423.1(b) and 64819(a)(2)(A)).
    - A bacterial sample is invalidated due to a laboratory analytical interference problem (Sections 64423.1(b) and 64819(a)(2)(B)).
    - A nitrate sample exceeds the maximum contaminant level (MCL) (Sections 64432.1(a)(1) and 64819(a)(2)(C)).
- If the laboratory is unable to make direct contact with the designated contact person within 24 hours, as required above, the laboratory shall immediately notify the Department (Sections 64423.1(b) and 64819(a)(3)).

To ensure compliance with the new regulations, water systems should immediately provide their water quality laboratories with contact information, including cell phone and pager numbers for after-hours and weekend notifications if necessary. Water systems should also provide the laboratories with contact information for the Drinking Water Field Operations District Office or Local Primacy Agency (LPA). Additionally, the laboratory should be notified at any time the designated contact persons change or their contact information changes.

Water systems should also verify that their laboratories are familiar with the new requirements for timely reporting of all data. Previously, data was to be submitted by the 10th day of the month following the month in which the water supplier received the analytical results. Under the revised regulation the results **are to be submitted by the 10th day of the month following the month in which the analyses are completed.** This revision ensures that analytical results will be reported promptly, both to the water system and the Department. The Department is aware that in the past some laboratories held analytical results for months before providing them to water systems. Under the revised regulations **data should be reported to the Department and the system within 30 to 45 days of sample collection**.

All electronic data shall be sent via e-mail to edt@dhs.ca.gov

By regular mail to:

        Drinking Water Program
        Monitoring and Evaluation Unit
        PO Box 942732
        Sacramento, California 94234-7320

Overnight Delivery: 601 North 7th Street, MS-92
        Sacramento, California 95814

Although the regulation requires electronic data reporting, data that cannot yet be transmitted via the Department's Write-On program should continue to be forwarded in paper format to your District Office or LPA.

If you have questions about Write-On, the EDF program, or other data transfer issues, please contact … at (916) 445-9083. If you have other questions about the requirements of this regulation, please contact your District Office or LPA.

Library Updating

Please remember to update your Water System and Source Libraries regularly in your Write-On software program. Changes to the Source Libraries are made a minimum of twice per month, and depending on volume of activity, it may be weekly. The software is available for downloading from our website at **www.dhs.ca.gov/ps/ddwem** .